

কাঠামোগত অন্যায়তা প্রতিরোধে ভুক্তভোগীদের দায়িত্ব প্রসঙ্গে একটি বিচারমূলক বিশ্লেষণ

(Victims' Responsibilities for Resisting Structural Injustice: A Critical Analysis)

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Abstract

Recent literature on confronting injustices within societies reveals that the role of victims as a responsible agent in resisting injustices is often undervalued. Most scholars (Kristin Shrader-Frechette, Henry Shue) exclude victims from being considered agents with responsibilities to resist the societal injustices they are subjected to. Some scholars (Gunnemyr, Yankah) suggest that victims ought to assign responsibility for resisting the injustices they endure. However, they seem to suggest victims' responsibilities are less pertinent than the responsibilities of other non-victim agents. However, in this article I will contend that victims of structural injustice should be considered as one of the most significant agents who are responsible for resisting the structural injustices by acting to dismantle the injustice-producing and perpetuating inequitable social structures. To do so, I will consider one of the most common and significant objections against the victim's responsibilities—the victim-blaming objection. According to this objection, victims should not be assigned responsibilities for combatting the injustices that they are subjected to, as this amounts to blaming them, which is unacceptable. I will reject two responses to the objection—from Goodin and Barry and Nussbaum—according to which victim-blaming is acceptable after all. I will show that victim-blaming might bring about counterproductive results through demotivating the victims. Then, I will present Young's response to the objection. Young claims that victim's responsibilities can entail criticism rather than blame. I will provide a partial defense of Young's view of assigning responsibilities to victims, arguing that her view is promising but underdeveloped. Finally, I will show that victims should be assigned a non-blameworthy form of responsibility for injustice. Failure to fulfill this responsibility should be met with constructive criticism rather than blame, since this is the best way to motivate victims to participate in ameliorating structural injustices.